IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Previously Presented) A ball and sleeve joint for a motor vehicle, the ball and sleeve joint comprising:

a housing;

a ball sleeve extending out of the housing on both sides, said ball sleeve having a through hole and a bearing area and being mounted with said bearing area in the housing such that two joint parts, which are rotatable and pivotable in relation to one another, are formed by the ball sleeve and the housing;

a signal transmitter arranged at one of said two joint parts;

a sensor arranged at the other of said two joint parts, which interacts with said signal transmitter arranged at said one of said joint parts; and

both said sensor and said signal transmitter are arranged between said through hole and said housing.

2. (Previously Presented) A ball and sleeve joint in accordance with claim 1, wherein said sensor is arranged in said ball sleeve and said signal transmitter in said housing.

3. (Previously Presented) A ball and sleeve joint in accordance with claim 1, wherein said sensor is arranged in said bearing area of said ball sleeve.

4. (Previously Presented) A ball and sleeve joint in accordance with claim 1, wherein

said signal transmitter is a magnet and said sensor is a magnetic field-sensitive sensor.

5. (Previously Presented) A ball and sleeve joint in accordance with claim 4, wherein said sensor is a magnetoresistive sensor.

6. (Previously Presented) A ball and sleeve joint in accordance with claim 4, wherein said signal transmitter is annular.

7. (Previously Presented) A ball and sleeve joint in accordance with claim 1, wherein a bearing shell made of a nonmagnetic material is arranged between said signal transmitter and said bearing area of said ball sleeve.

8. (Previously Presented) A ball and sleeve joint in accordance with claim 1, wherein said signal transmitter is in contact with said inner wall of said housing, and comprises a ferromagnetic material.

9. (Previously Presented) A ball and sleeve joint in accordance with claim 1, wherein said ball sleeve has an inner sleeve and an outer sleeve arranged concentrically therewith.

10. (Previously Presented) A ball and sleeve joint in accordance with claim 9, wherein said outer sleeve is fixed at said inner sleeve in a positive-locking manner in the axial

direction.

11. (Previously Presented) A ball and sleeve joint in accordance with claim 9, wherein said inner sleeve has a two-part design.

12. (Previously Presented) A ball and sleeve joint in accordance with claim 1, wherein a cavity, in which said sensor is arranged, is formed in said bearing area of said ball sleeve between said inner sleeve and said outer sleeve.

13. (Currently Amended) A ball and sleeve joint in accordance with claim 1, wherein [[said]] electric wires connected to said sensor are laid between said inner sleeve and said outer sleeve.

14. (Currently Amended) A ball and sleeve joint in accordance with claim 13, wherein an axial groove, in which said electric wires connected to said sensor extend, said axial groove being provided in the surface of the inner sleeve.

15. (Currently Amended) A ball and sleeve joint in accordance with claim 14, wherein said electric wires are designed as [[said]] strip conductors of a printed circuit board arranged in said axial groove.

16. (Previously Presented) A ball and sleeve joint in accordance with claim 14, wherein said electric wires are led out of the area between said inner sleeve and said outer sleeve in an end area of said ball sleeve.

17. (Previously Presented) A ball and sleeve joint in accordance with claim 16, further comprising: a second housing for contacting said sensor arranged at the end area of said ball sleeve, in which said electric wires are led out of the area between said inner sleeve and said outer sleeve.

18. (Currently Amended) A ball and sleeve joint in accordance with[[,]] claim 9, wherein said outer sleeve is manufactured by a forming method without cutting.

19. (Previously Presented) A ball and sleeve joint in accordance with claim 18, wherein said outer sleeve is a hydroformed part.

20. (Previously Presented) A motor vehicle ball and sleeve joint comprising:

a housing;

a ball sleeve having a through hole and a bearing area and being mounted with said bearing area in the housing extending out of said housing on each of two sides, said ball sleeve being rotatable and pivotable in relation to said housing;

a signal transmitter arranged at one of said housing and said ball sleeve;

a sensor arranged at the other of said housing and said ball sleeve, said sensor interacting with said signal transmitter, said sensor and said signal transmitter being arranged between said through hole and said housing.